

February 12, 2007

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Notice
CC Docket No. 02-6
Universal Service Mechanism for Schools and Libraries

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 19, 2007, several State E-rate Coordinators participated in a conference call with staff of the Telecommunications Access Policy Division of the Wireline Competition Bureau – Gina Spade, Alex Minard, and Regina Brown. The state representatives on the call were Julie Tritt Schell, Della Matthis, Greg Weisiger, Win Himsworth, George McDonald, and Gary Rawson.

We discussed several proposed options for revising the invoicing process associated with the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, and expressed our support for direct BEAR payments to applicants. In addition, we discussed the proposal to eliminate discounted billing and shift the burden of monthly invoicing to applicants and expressed the numerous concerns we had with the proposal and the negative impact that would be incurred by small and poor applicants, service providers, and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC).

We also discussed the increased number of \$0-funded Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement Forms for minor clerical errors, the large number of USAC appeal denials that could have been resolved favorably if USAC's would accept new information on appeal, and USAC's recently adopted practice of rejecting Form 486s if the applicant cannot demonstrate that it had a written technology plan at the time it submitted the Form 470.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Rawson
Mississippi State E-rate Coordinator

cc (via e-mail): Ms. Gina Spade

Mr. Alex Minard
Ms. Regina Brown